

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/669,847

Applicant(s)

OKANO, YOICHI

Examiner

Alexander Jamal

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to examiner interview PTO-413B 12-20-2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-11 and 13-30.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other PTO-413B.


WING CHAN
SENIOR PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Applicant's Amendment

1. Based upon the examiner initiated interview Dated 12-20-2004, examiner presents and examiner's amendment to the claims.
2. Examiner withdraws all rejections to all claims.
3. Examiner notes that on 12-20-2005 applicant's representative James Howard (39715) authorized payment from account 500481 to pay for a one-month extension of time (this is also noted on included form PTO-413B).

Examiner's Amendment

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with James Howard (reg. number 39715) on 12-8-2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 has been amended.

Claim 1. (Currently amended) An alert control method in a mobile telephone equipment having an alert function, comprising:

registering a name of a person in a phonebook database in said mobile telephone equipment by inputting and storing a predetermined time interval associated with said person;

storing a last-communication time related to a said name of said a person in said a phonebook database in said mobile telephone equipment immediately after the termination of a telephone call to or from said person with said mobile telephone equipment;

continuously performing the following process:

checking to see if said person's name has been registered for alert;

reading a current time of day from a timer;

reading the most recently stored last-communication time for said person;

calculating an elapsed amount of time value that has passed since said last-communication time;

making a determination that said elapsed amount of time that has passed is greater than or less than said predetermined time interval based upon a comparison of the elapsed amount of time value and said predetermined time interval; and

~~calculating an amount of time that has elapsed since said last communication time;~~

~~determining whether said amount of time that has elapsed since said last communication time exceeds a predetermined time interval; and~~

~~alerting when the user of said mobile telephone equipment based upon the determination that said elapsed amount of time that has passed is greater than said predetermined time interval it is determined that the predetermined time interval is exceeded by said amount of time since the last communication time.~~

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Claims 2-3 have been cancelled.

Claim 8 has been amended.

Claim 8. (Currently amended) An alert control method in a mobile telephone equipment having an alert function, comprising:

registering a name of a person in a phonebook database in said mobile telephone equipment by inputting and storing a predetermined time interval associated with at least one of a plurality of persons;

storing a last-communication time related to ~~said~~ a name of each of a plurality of persons in a phonebook database in said mobile telephone equipment immediately after the termination of a telephone call to or from said at least one of a plurality of persons with said mobile telephone equipment;

dividing the plurality of persons into at least one group;

determining a before-alert time interval for each of the at least one group, wherein the before-alert time interval is a time interval during which communication with a person in a group is not made before alerting;

continuously performing the following process:

checking to see if said at least one of a plurality of persons has been registered for an alert;

reading a current time of day from a timer;

reading the most recently stored last-communication time for said at least one of a plurality of persons;

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_____ calculating an elapsed amount of time value that has passed ~~elapsed~~ since said last-communication time;

making a determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than or less than said before-alert time interval based upon a comparison of the elapsed amount of time value and said before-alert time interval;

~~determining whether the before-alert time interval is exceeded by said amount of time that has elapsed since said last-communication time; and~~

~~alerting the user of said mobile telephone equipment based upon the determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than said before-alert time interval when it is determined that the before-alert time interval is exceeded by said amount of time that has elapsed since said last-communication time.~~

Claim 11 has been amended.

Claim 11. (Currently amended) An alert control method in a mobile telephone equipment having an alert function, comprising:

registering a name of a person in a phonebook database in said mobile telephone equipment by inputting and storing a predetermined time interval associated with said person;

storing a last-communication time related to said a name of said a person in a phonebook database in said mobile telephone equipment immediately after the termination of a telephone call to or from said person with said mobile telephone equipment;

storing an alert-inhibition time period during which alert is inhibited;

continuously performing the following process:

_____ checking to see if said person's name has been registered for an alert;

_____ reading a current time of day from a timer;

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reading the most recently stored last-communication time for said person;
calculating an elapsed amount of time value that has passed elapsed since said
last-communication time;
making a determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is
greater than or less than said alert-inhibition time period based upon a comparison of the elapsed
amount of time value and said alert-inhibition time period;
~~determining whether a predetermined time interval is exceeded by said amount of~~
~~time that has elapsed since said last-communication time;~~
alerting when the user of said mobile telephone equipment based upon the determination
that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than said alert-inhibition time
period ~~a current time falls out of the alert-inhibition time period and it is determined that the~~
~~predetermined time interval has elapsed; and~~
~~inhibiting an alert when the current time falls into the alert-inhibition time period even if~~
~~it is determined that the predetermined time interval has elapsed.~~

Claim 12 has been cancelled.

Claims 18-21 have been amended.

Claim 18. (Currently amended) A mobile telephone apparatus having an alert function, said apparatus comprising:

a phonebook database in said mobile telephone apparatus for storing a name of a person
and a predetermined time interval associated with said person and a last-communication time
related to said a name of said a person, said last communication time being stored immediately

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after the termination of a telephone call to or from said person with said mobile telephone equipment; and

a controller for continuously performing the following process:

checking to see if said person's name has been registered for an alert;

reading a current time of day from a timer;

reading the most recently stored last-communication time for said person;

calculating an elapsed amount of time value that has passed since said last-communication time;

making a determination that said elapsed amount of time that has passed is greater than or less than said predetermined time interval based upon a comparison of the elapsed amount of time value and said predetermined time interval; and

determining, based on a current time, whether a predetermined time interval is exceeded by an amount of time since said last-communication time and starting the alert function to alert the user of said mobile telephone equipment based upon the determination that said elapsed amount of time that has passed is greater than said predetermined time interval when it is determined that the predetermined time interval is exceeded by said amount of time since said last-communication time.

Claim 19. (Currently amended) A mobile telephone apparatus having an alert function, comprising:

a phonebook database in said mobile telephone apparatus for storing a name for each of a plurality of persons and a predetermined time interval associated with each of said plurality of persons and a last-communication time related to said a name of each of said a plurality of persons, said last communication times being stored immediately after the termination of a

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telephone call to or from each of said plurality of persons with said mobile telephone equipment,
wherein the plurality of persons is divided into at least one group; and

a controller for determining a before-alert time interval for each of the groups, wherein the before-alert time interval is a time interval during which communication with a ~~the~~ person in a group is not made before alerting, and ~~for continuously performing the following process:~~

checking to see if at least one of said names of said plurality of persons has been registered for an alert;

reading a current time of day from a timer;

reading the most recently stored last-communication time for said at least one of said names;

calculating an elapsed amount of time value that has passed since said last-communication time;

making a determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than or less than said before-alert time interval based upon a comparison of the elapsed amount of time value and said before-alert time interval; ~~determining whether the before-alert time interval is exceeded by an amount of time since the last communication time,~~ and

starting the alert function when to alert the user of said mobile telephone equipment based upon the determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than said ~~it is determined that the before-alert time interval is exceeded by said amount of time since the last communication time.~~

Claim 20. (Currently amended) A mobile telephone apparatus having an alert function, comprising:

a phonebook database in said mobile telephone apparatus for storing a name of a person,
a predetermined time interval associated with said person, and a last-communication time related

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to said a name of said a person immediately after the termination of a telephone call to or from said person with said mobile telephone equipment;

an alert-inhibition timetable storing an alert-inhibition time period during which alert is inhibited; and

a controller for continuously performing the following process:

checking to see if said person's name has been registered for an alert;

reading a current time of day from a timer;

reading the most recently stored last-communication time for said person;

calculating an elapsed amount of time value that has passed since said last-communication time;

making a determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than or less than a predetermined time interval; ~~determining, based on a time, whether a predetermined time interval is exceeded by an amount of time since said last communication time,~~

alerting the user of said mobile telephone equipment based upon the determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than said predetermined time interval and starting the alert function when a current time falls out of the alert-inhibition time period ~~and it is determined that the predetermined time interval has elapsed since said last communication time,~~ and

inhibiting an alert when the current time falls into the alert-inhibition time period, even if it is determined that the predetermined time interval is exceeded by said elapsed amount of time value that has passed since said last-communication time.

Claim 21. (Currently amended) An alert control method in a mobile telephone equipment having an alert function, comprising:

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registering a name of a person in a phonebook database in said mobile telephone equipment by inputting and storing a predetermined time interval associated with said person;

storing a last-communication time data related to said a name of said a person to communicate with in a phonebook database in said mobile telephone equipment immediately after the termination of a telephone call to or from said person with said mobile telephone equipment in response to a termination of a call to the person;

continuously performing the following process:

checking to see if said person's name has been registered for an alert;

reading a current time of day from a timer;

reading the most recently stored last-communication time for said person;

calculating an elapsed amount of time value that has passed since said last-communication time;

making a determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than or less than said predetermined time interval based upon a comparison of the elapsed amount of time interval and said predetermined time interval;

calculating an amount of time that has elapsed since said termination of said call based upon said stored time data;

determining whether said amount of time exceeds a predetermined time interval; and

alerting the user of said mobile telephone equipment based upon the determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than said predetermined time interval when it is determined that the predetermined time interval is exceeded by said amount of time that has elapsed without communicating with the person.

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Claims 23,25-27 have been amended.

Claim 23. (Currently amended) An alert control method in a mobile telephone equipment having an alert function, comprising:

registering a name of a person in a phonebook database in said mobile telephone equipment by inputting and storing a predetermined time interval associated with said person;

storing a last-communication time data related to said a name of said a person to communicate with in a phonebook database in said mobile telephone equipment immediately after the termination of a telephone call to or from said person with said mobile telephone equipment;

storing an alert-inhibition time period during which alert is inhibited;

continuously performing the following process:

checking to see if said person's name has been registered for an alert;

reading a current time of day from a timer;

reading the most recently stored last-communication time for said person;

calculating an elapsed amount of time value that has passed since said last communication time;

making a determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than or less than said predetermined time interval based upon a comparison of the elapsed amount of time value and said predetermined time interval;

~~calculating an amount of time that has elapsed since communicating with said person based upon said stored time data;~~

~~determining whether a predetermined time interval is exceeded by the amount of time that has elapsed without communicating with the person;~~

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alerting the user of said mobile telephone equipment based upon the determination that said elapsed amount of time that has passed is greater than said predetermined time interval and when a current time falls out of the alert-inhibition time period ~~and it is determined that the predetermined time interval is exceeded by the amount of time that has elapsed without communicating with the person;~~ and

inhibiting an alert when the current time falls into the alert-inhibition time period, even if it is determined that the predetermined time interval is exceeded by the elapsed amount of time value that has passed elapsed without communicating with the person.

Claim 25. (Currently amended) A mobile telephone apparatus having an alert function, comprising:

a phonebook database in said mobile telephone apparatus for storing a name of a person, a predetermined time interval associated with said person, and a last-communication time related to said a name of said a person immediately after the termination of a telephone call to or from said person with said mobile telephone equipment ~~to communicate with in response to termination of a call to the person;~~ and

a controller for continuously performing the following process:

checking to see if said person's name has been registered for an alert;

reading a current time of day from a timer;

reading the most recently stored last-communication time for said person;

calculating an elapsed amount of time value that has passed since said last communication time;

making a determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than or less than a predetermined time interval; ~~determining, based on the time data, whether a predetermined time interval is exceeded by said amount of time;~~ and

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alerting the user of said mobile telephone equipment based upon the determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than said predetermined time interval ~~starting an alert function when it is determined that the predetermined time interval is exceeded by the amount of time that has elapsed without communicating with the person.~~

Claim 26. (Currently amended) A mobile telephone apparatus having an alert function, comprising:

a phonebook database in said mobile telephone apparatus for storing a name for each of a plurality of persons, a predetermined time interval associated with each of said plurality of persons, and a last-communication talk time related to said a name of each of said a plurality of persons immediately after ~~to communicate with in response to~~ a termination of a call to or from the person with said mobile telephone equipment, wherein the plurality of persons is divided into at least one group; and

a controller for determining a before-alert time interval for each of the groups, wherein the before-alert time interval is a time interval during which communication with a person in a group is not made before alerting, and for continuously performing the following process:

checking to see if said person's name has been registered for an alert;

reading a current time of day from a timer;

reading the most recently stored last-communication time for said person;

calculating an elapsed amount of time value that has passed since said last communication time;

making a determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than or less than a predetermined time interval; ~~determining whether the before-alert time~~

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~~interval is exceeded by an amount of time since the last communication time based upon said last communication talk time, and~~

alerting the user of said mobile telephone equipment based upon the determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than said predetermined time interval ~~starting the alert function when it is determined that the before-alert time interval is exceeded by the amount of time since the last communication time.~~

Claim 27. (Currently amended) A mobile telephone apparatus having an alert function, comprising:

a phonebook database in said mobile telephone apparatus for storing a name of a person, a predetermined time interval associated with said person, and a last-communication time data related to said a name of said a person immediately after the termination of a telephone call to or from said person with said mobile telephone equipment ~~to communicate with in response to a termination of a call to the person;~~

an alert-inhibition timetable storing an alert-inhibition time period during which alert is inhibited; and

a controller for continuously performing the following process:
checking to see if said person's name has been registered for an alert;
reading a current time of day from a timer;
reading the most recently stored last-communication time for said person;
calculating an elapsed amount of time value that has passed since said last-communication time;
making a determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than or less than a predetermined time interval; ~~determining, based on the time data, whether a predetermined time interval is exceeded by an amount of time that has elapsed without communicating with the person based upon said stored time data;~~

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_____ alerting the user of said mobile telephone equipment based upon the determination that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than said predetermined time interval, and starting the alert function when a current time falls out of the alert-inhibition time period ~~and it is determined that the predetermined time interval is exceeded by an amount of time that has elapsed without communicating with the person, and~~

inhibiting alerting the user alert when the current time falls into the alert-inhibition time period even if it is determined that said elapsed amount of time value that has passed is greater than said predetermined time interval ~~the predetermined time interval is exceeded by an amount of time that has elapsed without communicating with the person.~~

Allowable Subject Matter

5. **Claims 1,4-11,13-30** are allowed over the prior art of record
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The instant application is deemed to be directed to a nonobvious improvement over the invention patented in Pat. No. 5625683. The improvement comprises an improved and more efficient algorithm to implement a call-back reminder system.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander Jamal whose telephone number is 571-272-7498. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9AM-6PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis A Kuntz can be reached on 571-272-7499. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are **571-273-8300** for regular communications and **571-273-8300** for After Final communications.


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December 20, 2005